GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2766
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2001
LOOTING OF ARMS FROM TRAIN
BRAHMANAND MANDAL

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a special train carrying arms from Panhagarh Cantonment to Assam was looted as reported in Dainik Jagaran dated October 31, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted by the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (e): A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2766 6.12.2001

A special train carrying ammunition consigned to 14 Field Ammunition Depot, duly escorted by 1 Junior Commissioned Officer, 1 Non-Commissioned Officer and 6 other Ranks was dispatched from Ammunition Depot, Panagarh to New Guwahati on 19th October 2001. The Escort Commander reported on 27th October 2001 that a seal and lock ofone of the wagons (No. NR 66207) was found broken at Andal railway station on the night of 26/27 October 2001. A team comprising 1 officer and 1 Junior Commissioned Officer was immediately sent from Panagarh to Andal railway station to investigate the affected wagon. The wagon was unloaded and ammunition counted. It was revealed that one box containing one cartridge of 105 MM was missing. An FIR was lodged at Andal with the Government Railway Police and Civil Police.

2. A Court of Inquiry has been ordered. Remedial and punitive actions will be taken after the Court of Inquiry submits its report.